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S.D. 1 H.D. 1 PROPOSED

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S EFFORTS TOWARD PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND URGING THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO ENGAGE IN SINCERE REUNIFICATION DIALOGUE WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

WHEREAS, very little had been known about conditions in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("North Korea") due to the lack of access afforded foreign media and the tradition of secrecy; and

WHEREAS, however, in 2014, the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights Violations in North Korea issued a report detailing the existence of violations of human rights in North Korea; and

WHEREAS, this body strongly supports United Nations General Assembly Resolution 69/188, which condemns the human rights abuses in North Korea and was overwhelmingly adopted by the United Nations General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, this body urges North Korea to acknowledge the international community's concerns regarding its violation of human rights, improve the human rights of its people, abandon any nuclear ambitions, and engage in sincere dialogue with the Republic of Korea ("South Korea") concerning reunification; and

WHEREAS, the achievement of reunification, peace, and security on the Korean Peninsula would provide the unified Korea with widespread access to affordable labor, abundant natural resources, and economic growth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body supports South Korea's efforts toward peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula and urges North Korea to engage in sincere reunification dialogue with South Korea; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; the President of the Republic of Korea; and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.